



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 3/18/2003

GAIN Report #TH3032

## **Thailand**

### **Grain and Feed**

### **Weekly Rice Price Update**

**2003**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

Export prices changed slightly. Thai rices will become more attractive against Vietnamese rices.

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1], TH

**Indicative Price (Week Ending Mar 17):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	430	425	451	434	450	440	425	436	425
WR 100 B	203	205	202	201	200	202	198	202	200
PB 5%	187	195	193	193	193	198	192	193	194
WR 5%	198	200	198	196	195	197	194	197	196
WR 10%	194	195	195	192	192	193	190	193	192
WR 15%	190	190	192	185	187	190	186	189	187
WR 25%	185	183	187	178	172	173	182	180	180
WR 35%	180	178	185	175	169	170	178	176	177
A 1 SUP	148	149	148	145	148	145	146	147	151
A 1 SPEC	147	147	147	143	147	NQ	145	146	150
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice changed slightly. Trade source reported that the Philippines National Food Authority tendered to buy 400,000 metric tons of 25% grade rice with Vietnam, China, and Thailand for shipment during April - Jun this year. Thai rices will likely be able to compete with Vietnamese rice in the coming months, due mainly to an upward trend of Vietnamese rice prices in anticipation of lower level of available supplies. It is expected that Vietnamese rices will be no longer attractive if their prices are cheaper than Thai rices only by \$ 10 /ton, given more reliable shipment and higher quality of Thai rices.

**The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):**

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
FEB 9	84,480	91,068	450	898
FEB 16	89,591	88,572	539	990
FEB 23	76,143	80,208	616	1,120
MAR 2	92,369	85,646	708	1,256
MAR 9	47,288	76,348	755	1,384
MAR 16	72,278	72,019	827	1,541

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002 do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Mar 10-16, 2003, totaled 72,278 tons, up 24,990 tons from the previous week's total and up 259 tons from the four week moving average of 72,019 tons. Exports during Jan 1- Mar 16, 2003, totaled 827 thousand tons, compared with 1,541 thousand tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

According to Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan1 - Mar 11, 2003 amounted to 1,211,653 tons, down 14.6 percent from 1,419,399 tons during the same period in 2002.

**Weekly Rice Sales**

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Feb 24-28, Mar 3-7 (Revised), and Mar 10-14, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Feb 24-28	Mar 3-7	Mar 10-14
weekly sales	76,097	98,916	74,331
4 week sum	339,785	324,593	296,647
4 week mov avg.	84,946	81,148	74,162
Total weekly sales	763,460	862,376	936,707